G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

File No. 51-18

1918-19
(P.D.)

Serial Nos. 174

Later references.

No. 122-C&(1)
—do— (824)

Preserve
M. 20/11/42

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 174

Part B for August 1918

SUBJECT.

Publication of Gazette of Govt. officers' Orders.

---

824. To. The S. G. of Delhi.
Dt. Imperial of Delhi.
(No. G. 4638-1 dt. 27-8-1918.
Issues circular Memo. regarding
publication & Govt. Notifications. No. Q. 2798/20.
51-18-2 Jan Steps to be taken to prevent
publication of breaking list amongst
Govt. officers.

6/9

W D 88—GPB—50,000—24-7-16

G. R. S. III—1] 1918.-19

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(P. P.)

NOTES.

File No. 51

FILE HEADING.

Prohibition of melting &c. current gold or silver coins.

From

The A. A. Resident in Mysore

No. 5089 Dated 22. 7. 18 Received 23. 7. 18. 25

Diary No. 1649	Enclos. 3 Spare Copies. -	Serial No. 1.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Invites the cooperation of the Durbar to check the practice of melting current gold & silver coins in the state & requests that the rules passed may be intimated for communication to the Govt of India.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

in British India. the melting, breaking up or use otherwise than as currency, any current gold or silver coin - is prohibited under Rule 21 A of the Defence of India (Consolidation Rules) A similar rule has not been introduced in

NOTES—First Sheet.

WD 1232—GPB—20,000—18-11-16

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | P. P. File No. 51 of 191 8. - 19

Serial No.

ni regns. - Draft Note ni-
hoducing the same put up.

2. ~~Draft Note introducing the~~
~~Baroda Public Departt~~.

3. Draft reply to the Residency
is also subd.

4. Regarding the prohibition
of the export of silver bullion
& coins ~~from British India~~, the Govt
of India Note in the matter has
already been given wide publicity
vide Note No G 110 44/Gen 360-17-4
dt 11-2-1918

WZ
27/7/18

Chief Secy WJ 27/7/18

5 The drafts maybe approved.
A circular letter to Dy Magts & Police Officers
may also be issued directing their attention
to this Note, asking them to give wide
publicity to it & take suitable action to
prevent breaches thereof

1st member
2nd member } CBS 28/7/18

6. affd
well
30/7 WZ 30/7/18

7. Secy
Revl
31.7.18

Dewan

680
21/8/18

+70
31.7.18

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

A refd to in the Baroda Dubar's Note

WD A 1789—GPB—60,000—20-3-18—S.

CBS 1/8/18 WJ 1/8/18

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

R. P File No. 51 of 191 8-19

Serial No.

8 Drafts may issue.

9 Action may also be taken as suggested by the Chief Secretary.

10 The papers may be submitted to His Highness for information.

3.8.18

11 Issue.

12 Mem submit with Ofn

2

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

WD A 1799—GPB—60,000—20-3-19—S.

WD 1233—GPB—60,000—1-12-16—S.

(4

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

P. P File No. 57 of 1918.29

Serial No.	
	13. D.S.W is put up. (Chief Secy) Dewany 9/8/18
837 9/8/18	
	9/8

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

14. *Submitted to His Highness.*

These papers relate to the steps taken to prevent in the Mysore State the melting, breaking or using otherwise than as currency, any current gold or silver coin of British India.

2. The Residency having at the instance of the Government of India, requested that effective action might be taken to stop the melting, &c., of British coins in the State, a rule similar to Rule 21 A of the Defence of India (Consolidation) Rules, which prohibits the use otherwise than as currency, of any British gold or silver coin, has been introduced under the Defence of India Regulation I of 1918.

A

B

3. I submit the papers for His Highness' gracious approval.

M Vishwesvaraya
10th Aug 1918.

1812

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja

Subject.

Papers relating to the steps taken to prevent in the Mysore State the melting, breaking or using otherwise than as currency, of any current gold or silver coin of British India.

Order.

15. 12.8.18.

16. Chief Secy 13.8.18

3494

WD 1233—GPB—60,000—1-12-16—S.

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | P. P File No. 51 of 1918. 9.

Serial No.

17. A draft circular in accordance with paras 5 & 9 of the note submitted

No 34949 20.8.18

15/8/18

18

W/26/8/18

19. 1st member

926/27.8

27/8

W/26/8/18

20

27/8

4

Issue

27/8 W 27/8/18

4 To

The Inspector General of Police
in Bengal

The District Magistrate of Dacca

No. G. 4438-46 & 29.8.18

I am directed to forward herewith for information a copy of Government of India, Home Department, Political, No. E. 2798/P.P. 5710-2 as also to be taken to prevent wilful or [illegible] destruction, removal [illegible]

B

FROM SECRETARIAT
TO POLITICAL BRANCH.
2. SEP. 1918

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

D 229

R. O. 2.—E. P. B.—5-1918.—500.

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 5089 a 3.

2649

FROM

MAJOR E. H. S. JAMES,
FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

51-18

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 22nd July *1918.*

SIR,

In forwarding a copy of the letters noted in the margin, regarding the coinage of a gold mohur or 15-rupee gold coin and the melting down of current gold or silver coins, I am directed to invite the kind co-operation of the Durbar with a view to such action as is possible being taken to check the practice of melting the coins in question. The matter is of the highest importance and the Government of India will be grateful if effective action can be taken as soon as is conveniently possible to stop the melting of British coins in the Mysore State. In this connection attention is invited to a notification issued by the Baroda Durbar on the 5th March 1918, of which a copy is enclosed.

1. No. 1851 F., dated the 1st/2nd July 1918, from the Government of India, Finance Department with enclosure.
2. No.1620.F., dated the 19th July 1917 from - do -

2. I am to request that the orders passed by the Durbar may kindly be intimated to this office for communication to the Government of India.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

B.J.

First Assistant Resident.

No. 1851-F.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

FROM

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. F. HOWARD, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To

ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS,
EXCEPT THE PUNJAB.

Simla, the 1st July 1918.

SIR,

I am directed to enclose a copy of a press communiqué regarding the coinage and issue of a gold mohur or 15-rupee gold coin. As you will observe the Government of India have taken the opportunity to announce their intention to enforce the provisions of Rule 21-A. of the Defence of India Rules prohibiting the melting, breaking up, or use otherwise than as currency, of any current gold or silver coin.

2. In this connection I am to refer to my letter No. 1620-F., dated the 19th July 1917, in which a request was made that Presidency and District Magistrates should be instructed, before giving consent to prosecutions under the Rule, to obtain the advice of the Civil Accountant General or Comptroller of the Province in each case. The Government of India had hoped, when making this request, that the severe penalty attaching to a breach of the rule would help to ensure its observance and that recourse to prosecutions except possibly on a very limited scale would not be required. This has unfortunately not proved to be the case, and the Government of India withdraw the above request.

3. I am now to ask that the Local Governments will take steps to ascertain whether the melting down of sovereigns or of rupees on a substantial scale is taking place within their jurisdiction and will institute prosecutions in all cases in which sufficient evidence can be obtained of any serious breach of the rule. It is of special importance that action should be taken against those whom enquiry may show to have been engaged in the operation of melting down coin on a large scale, and the Government of India suggest that in cases instituted against such persons, the officers conducting the prosecutions should be instructed to press for a deterrent penalty.

Further, should experience show that the provisions of Rule 21-A. of the Defence of India rules are not sufficiently comprehensive to make it possible to deal effectively with offences of the kind where these are known to exist, the Government of India will welcome any suggestions which Local Governments may have to make as to the direction in which the scope of the powers conferred by the rule in question can usefully be extended.

4. While, however, the Government of India desire that penal measures should be resorted to where necessary against any serious infringements of the law which may come to light, they hope that it may be possible to minimise the extent to which more stringent measures may be required by fully utilising the machinery of such institutions as the Provincial Publicity Committees in order to discourage the wasteful practices of hoarding and melting of current coin. The Government of India do not propose to make any suggestions as to the methods which should be employed

by such bodies, as these will naturally vary in different provinces, and measures which might be suitable in one province might prove to be the reverse of expedient in another.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. F. HOWARD,

Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 1852-F.

Copy forwarded, for information, to the Government of the Punjab, in continuation of paragraph 2 of this Department letter No.1618-F., dated the 8th June 1918; also to the Controller of Currency and all Civil Accountants General and Comptrollers; also to the Secretary, Central Publicity Board.

By order,

A. V. V. AIYAR,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

G. M. Press, Simla.—No. 84 Fin.D.—11-7-18—200—K.C.M.

Press Communiqué, dated Simla, the 14th June 1918.

An Ordinance is being promulgated to-day empowering the Government of India to coin gold mohurs or 15-rupee gold pieces. The standard weight, fineness and dimensions of the new coin will correspond to that of the sovereign, and it will be full legal tender at Rs. 15 per gold mohur. The coin will bear on its obverse the head of His Majesty as in the case of the present rupee coinage and the legend George V, King-Emperor, and on the reverse an ornamented border, the words 15 Rupees, India, and the year of coinage. As the public are aware, a branch of the Royal Mint has been established at Bombay for the coinage of sovereigns. There have, however, been some delays owing to the non-arrival of the necessary dies and other causes, and a few weeks will probably still elapse before it is possible to commence the coinage of sovereigns. In the interval, it has become desirable, in order to supplement the rupee stocks of the Government of India, to coin a portion of the large gold holding in the Paper Currency Reserve in so far as this is at present in the form of gold bullion or foreign coin.

2. The present intention is to use these new gold coins in conjunction with currency notes to enable the Wheat Commissioner to carry out his programme of purchases of wheat in the Punjab.

3. As the public are aware, the Government of India are now receiving large consignments of silver from America which the Mints are coining up into rupees as rapidly as possible, while in addition to the shipments already received, further shipments which will be sufficient to coin into over 13 crores of rupees are already on their way and are expected very shortly, and these will be followed by further large consignments. Meanwhile the Government of India have large disbursements to make in connection with the purchase of wheat and otherwise, and they consider that it will be expedient to provide for a portion of these payments being made in gold, in order to enable them more rapidly to replenish their rupee stocks from the new coinage which the Mints are now carrying out.

4. In the present connection the Government of India desire to draw attention to Rule No. 21-A issued in June 1917 under the Defence of India Act prohibiting the melting, breaking up, or use otherwise than as currency, of any current gold or silver coin. They issued this Rule with the object of protecting their coin reserves, and they hoped that the penalty attaching to these serious offences, *viz.*, imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or a fine, or both, would provide an adequate deterrent and that it would be unnecessary to initiate more than an occasional prosecution in order to ensure the observance of the law. They regret that this has not proved to be the case, and that the melting of sovereigns has, according to their information, since taken place on a considerable scale while cases of the melting of rupees have similarly been reported.

5. The Government of India therefore notify for general information that they propose to take steps to check these offences by the prosecution of those detected in committing them and that they will not hesitate, if necessary, to take further powers in order to secure the object which the present law has in view.

6. At the same time they wish to point out the disadvantages of hoarding coin or of melting it down for the manufacture into ornaments, as these are apparently not so widely appreciated as they ought to be. The position briefly is that, in order to ensure an adequate supply of rupee currency, the Government of India have entered into an arrangement for the purchase of very large amounts of silver from the United States Government, and it is in pursuance of this arrangement that they are receiving the large supplies of silver referred to above. Owing, however, to the present high price of silver, this arrangement is necessarily an expensive one. Further, apart from the mere question of the cost to India of the large additions which are now being made to the metallic currency of the country, any reduction which can safely be effected in the sums spent by her abroad for the purchase of bullion for her coinage will liberate a corresponding amount for effective war expenditure. To the extent, therefore, to which the practice of hoarding and melting sovereigns and rupees necessitates the purchase of further bullion for coinage, these practices are a real hindrance to the effective prosecution of the war.

7. The most direct method in which every member of the public can further this object is that emphasised by His Excellency the Viceroy in his speech closing the last session of the Imperial Legislative Council on the 22nd March last, namely that he should subscribe to the utmost of his ability to the forthcoming war loan. Apart from this, the mere refraining from the melting down of coin or from the purchase of gold and silver ornaments, which must of necessity stimulate this wasteful practice, will reduce the outlay required for the purpose of maintaining an adequate supply of metallic currency. While, therefore, the Government of India will deal stringently with any offences committed in respect of their legal tender coin, they trust that the necessity for resort to prosecutions on their part will be minimised by the whole-hearted co-operation of the public in the directions indicated above.

G. M. Press, Simla,—No. 84 Fin. D.—11-7-18—200—K.C.M.

(13

OFFICE OF THE LEGAL REMEMBRANCER, BARODA.-

N O T I F I C A T I O N.

No. 11 of 1917-18.

---:0:---

SUBJECT.

Prohibition against the melting and breaking &c. of current gold and silver coins in the Baroda State.

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The rates of gold and silver having risen at present and there being a probability of the current gold and silver coins being melted or broken to be sold as gold and silver, it is notified in British India that the melting and breaking of current gold and silver coins is prohibited, that the coins should not be used for any other purpose except as such, that the gold of melted coins would be liable to confiscation if imported in British India by sea or land, and that the export of gold + silver coins beyond the fixed amounts to any place except to the ports of British India and of Native States is prohibited.

It being expedient to make such a prohibition in this State also, it is notified under Council order No. A/2 dated 4th March 1918 that no one in this State should melt or break current gold and silver coins, that he should not make use of coins for any other purpose except as such and that he should not send silver and silver coins in excess of the following amounts from this state to any other place except to the ports of British India and of Native States.

(a) When such coin is sent by any passenger in a ship by water Rs.100/-
(b) When such coin is shipped by and for the use of the officers and crew of any steamship, an aggregate of Rs.1000/-
(c) When such coin is shipped by and for the use of the officers and crew of any other ship, an aggregate of Rs.100/-

The Police should see that no body acts against this Notification and they should deal with the defaulter according to law.

This Notification will be in force for one year at present.

Sd. G. H. Desai,
Legal Remembrancer.

5th March 1918.

---:0:---

"C O P Y"

(14

Letter No. 1620-F., dated the 19th July 1917 from the Secretary to the Govt. of India, Finance Department to all Local Governments and Administrations.

I am directed to invite a reference to rule 21-A of the Defence of India (Consolidation)Rules published under cover of the notification in this Department No. 1470-F., dated the 29th June 1917, prohibiting the melting, breaking up or using otherwise than as currency, of any current gold or silver coin. I am to request that, if ~~His Excellency the Governor in Council~~ ~~H.H. the Lieut-Governor(in Council)~~ you see sees no objection, the chief presidency and district magistrates whose written consent is necessary under rule 30 of the Rules cited above for the initiation of legal proceedings under the Rules may be instructed, before giving such consent in the case of prosecutions under rule 21)A., to obtain the advice of the Civil Accountant General or Comptroller of the Province in each case.

No G 2798 dt 7-8-18

N O T I F I C A T I O N. (15

In pursuance of Section 2 of the Defence of India (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 1915, as introduced into Mysore by Regulation I of 1918, Government are pleased to direct that the following rule be inserted after Rule 3D in Government Notification No. J. 811/Legis. 46-16-9 dated 1st September 1917, as subsequently amended:-

Prohibition regarding current gold or silver coin.

3 (E) - No person shall melt, break up or use otherwise than as currency, any current gold or silver coin. ~~In this~~ In this rule "Coin" means coin which is legal tender under the Indian Coinage Act, 1906.

"By Order"

Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Compiler, Mysore Gazette, for publication and supply of 100 copies in English and 100 copies in Kannada to the G.R.S., and 50 English and 100 Kannada copies to each of the District Magistrates.

Memo No. G 2799-807 Dated. 7-8-18

Copy to -

(1) The I.G. of Police. | with a request
(2) " District Magistrates of Districts. | that due publicity may be given to the above Notification.
(3) Comptroller, Mysore Government.

No G 2808 dt 7-8-18

To. Pd. No. 148 / 7.8.18

2 Sfs

To

The First Assistant to the Hon'ble
the Resident in Mysore.

S i r,

With reference to your letter No. 5089 dated the 22nd July 1918, I am - - directed to state that a Rule similar to Rule 21 A of the Defence of India (Consolidation) Rules, prohibiting the melting etc. of current gold or silver coins has now been introduced in Mysore. A copy of the Notification issued is forwarded for information and favour of communication to the Government of India.

30/7

I have, etc.,

28/7/18

Chief Secretary to Government.

27/7/18

31.7.18

N.M.S.T-1
Secl. 1

F 4438-46 A/29-8-18

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM.

The attention of the Inspector General of Police and the District Magistrates of Districts is invited to Government Notification No. G. 2798/P.P. 51-18-2 dated 7th August 1918 laying down that no person shall melt or break up or use otherwise than as currency current gold or silver coins of British India and they are requested to take steps to give wide - - publicity to the order and to take suitable action to prevent breaches thereof.

"By Order"

Chief Secretary to Government.

27/8/18

To

The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

" District Magistrates of Districts.